



APD NEWS

Public Information Office: (512) 974-5017

715 E. 8th St. Austin, Texas 78701

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Public Information Office, 974-5017

APD Explorers Offer Auto and Burglary Theft Prevention Programs

The Austin Police Department Explorers along with the Auto Theft Interdiction Project will offer residents the opportunity to participate in programs designed to promote auto and burglary of vehicle theft awareness on Wednesday, March 25, 2009 at Akins High School, 10701 S. 1st Street. The Southeast District Representatives will be available to answer questions or concerns residents may have regarding their community.

The Austin Police Explorer program is intended to show young men and women between the ages of 14 and 20, at a 9th grade level or higher the many career opportunities in Law Enforcement. Exploring provides experiences to aid young people in their development in becoming responsible and caring adults, leadership, ethical insight, and decision making. The event will take place on:

Wednesday, March 25, 2009 from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., at Akins High School parking lot located at 10701 S. 1st Street.

Residents can have their vehicle identification numbers (VIN) etched for free on the vehicles' windows. All vehicles have a federally assigned vehicle identification number (VIN). The etching of a VIN on the windows of a vehicle deters thieves because it is more difficult to dispose of property that is identifiable.

Additionally, residents will be able to register their vehicles with the H.E.A.T. (Help End Auto Theft) program. H.E.A.T. is a statewide vehicle registration program that helps law enforcement to identify stolen vehicles. Vehicle owners who normally do not use their cars between 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. sign an agreement allowing officers to stop the vehicle and verify ownership if the vehicle is being driven during these hours.

The APD Auto Theft Interdiction Project programs are funded through the Texas Automobile Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority to reduce auto and burglary theft in the State of Texas.

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